

Comment #11 – Oral Testimony (page 1 of 2)

1                   DAVID BARNETT: I represent -- I'm the  
2                   official representative for the neighborhood of South  
3                   Santa Rosa Avenue. The residents which -- there are a  
4                   number of them. We're very concerned that on this  
5                   project that there was no environmental report at all  
6                   done on Santa Rosa Avenue itself. It was all done on  
7                   Highway 101 and sound walls. We are concerned.

8                   For one, there were over 200-some-odd  
9                   accidents on 101 northbound between Rohnert Park and  
10                  Highway 12 in 1997. Now, through an independent survey  
11                  study done it is said that every two point three seconds  
12                  a car will come down Santa Rosa Avenue. Now, that adds  
13                  up to a lot more traffic we have now. We have children  
14                  on buses. We have elderly. We have senior citizens in  
15                  that area. What are we going to do with all these cars?

16                  As it stands right now under current  
17                  conditions some people have to go to Rohnert Park, turn  
18                  around, and come back to Santa Rosa to get into their  
19                  private streets. Also it is a highly senior citizen  
20                  area. What about our emergency ambulances? Our cops?  
21                  What are we going to do when traffic is bumper to bumper on  
22                  Santa Rosa Avenue?

23                  Currently right now any time in the  
24                  afternoon, especially on Thursday and Friday, any time  
25                  after 2:30, 3:00, from Wilfred Avenue exit all the way

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1 to Todd Road is completely jam-packed. People are  
2 driving down the center passing lane. What we have is a  
3 current bottleneck from Wilfred Avenue overpass to Todd  
4 Road and then back out the four lanes again. This is  
5 inexcusable.

6 If we're going to spend this kind of money  
7 which we all agree upon -- 101 has to be done, but  
8 Caltrans should go back to Sonoma County Transit  
9 Authority and say, hey, we're getting flack from the  
10 local residents about the influence of traffic. I  
11 understand that -- well, no matter what, it's two lanes.  
12 It's still going to be two lanes during construction.  
13 And traffic will come to Santa Rosa Avenue, but let it  
14 burn out there, one accident here. We're going to get  
15 even more accidents. And sooner or later somebody's  
16 going to get hurt on the avenue itself.

17 We feel as the residents of Santa Rosa  
18 Avenue it should be looked at very seriously and an  
19 environmental impact study done on it for our own safety  
20 and the safety of our families. Thank you. That's it.

21 (Hearing Exhibit Numbers 1 through 3 were  
22 marked for identification.)

23 PAUL OGASAWARA: I have two paragraphs that  
24 I was going to read to the county supervisors, but I ran  
25 out of time and they wouldn't let me finish two

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**Sonoma 101 Widening & Soundwall Construction (Wilfred to Route 12)  
Final Negative Declaration/Final Environmental Assessment**

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**Response #11 – Oral Testimony  
David Barnett**

Comment Number	Response
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11-A	See comment 11-B.
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The results of the independent study were incorrectly predicated on the diversion of traffic to Santa Rosa Avenue. Caltrans has no plans to detour traffic onto this facility.

Additionally, regarding traffic generated by the project at completion, while the proposed project will not generate additional traffic, the two extra lanes added to this segment of freeway may bring greater congestion relief to Santa Rosa Avenue. Highway 101 serves both a highway and a major arterial road through most of the North Bay, because of the limited capacity of parallel north-south arterial streets throughout much of the corridor. So as congestion resulting from commute trips is reduced, travelers on surface streets may be selecting to make trips via Route 101 that might otherwise be made on arterial roads because it is more convenient.

11-B	Any requests for improvements on Santa Rosa Avenue should be brought to the attention of local and regional governing bodies such as the City of Santa Rosa or the Sonoma County Transportation Authority. This work falls under the jurisdiction of the County.
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